

The Sword of The Lord

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord,
and of Gideon."
(Judges 7:20)

and of JOHN R. RICE

"The sword of the Spirit, which is the word
of God."
(Eph. 6:17)

An independent religious weekly to preach the gospel, expose sin, spread premillennial, fundamental Bible teaching, and foster the work
of the Fundamental Baptist Church, 201 East Tenth Street, Dallas, Texas.

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Office 201 E. 10th St. Phone

What Race Horse Gambling Does

From the Dallas News for January 30th, we clipped the following brief news note which tells its own sad story.

RACE HORSES DID IT TEXAN SAYS AS HE DIES OF POISON

HOUSTON, Texas, January 29 (UP).—Blaming horse races for his death, K. W. Alford, 43, died Tuesday. A note written on a box that had contained poison told the story:

"Race horses did this. The wages of sin is death.

"The greatest thing the Texas Legislature can do is repeal or enforce the gambling law.

"May God have mercy on my soul, watch over and protect my family."

"The poison box was found in his pocket after he slumped over in a hotel lobby. Alford was employed by an oil company. He is survived by his wife and five daughters."

Moral wreck and then suicide, caused by race track gambling. Five orphan daughters and a wife now left a widow, caused by race track gambling.

This voice from the dead says, "Race horses did this. The wages of sin is death. The greatest thing the Texas Legislature can do is repeal or enforce the gambling law."

The State Legislature legalized horse race gambling, on the plea that the state percentage of gambling profits would buy jacks and stallions and make them available for breeding purposes for the farmers of Texas. But suppose you ask this widow and five daughters whether they would rather have back their husband and father or have a few Kentucky jacks on Texas farms.

Thousands of cases of moral ruin, of broken homes, of heart-broken wives and disappointed children bear witness to the ruin of legalized race track gambling. Crime, law breaking, dishonesty, moral wreck follow naturally in its wake.

Who killed K. W. Alford? You

(Continued on page four)

The Townsend Plan Folly

Dr. Townsend, an aged physician in California, thought up the brilliant plan of ending the depression by having the United States Government supply people past sixty years old \$200.00 a month to spend, which is to be spent in each case within thirty days. The theory is that that would put so much money in circulation that all the factories would run full speed, all the unemployed would have jobs, and everybody would be prosperous. The plan is silly, wicked and dangerous.

In the first place, the Townsend plan is silly. It promises prosperity the same way the prodigal son tried. He found it put him in the hog pen. Riotous spending of unearned money will not bring prosperity. If so, then every preacher ought to laud to the skies the spendthrift children of the rich. Wild use of money in the stock market and otherwise, helped bring on the depression. Then why should it cure it?

On every hand the quack doctors who think they have the remedy for the depression, urge people to abandon the old fashioned virtues of thrift, saving, hard work and frugality to spend, spend, spend!

The Townsend Plan would bankrupt the American Government, bankrupt business and bring even worse ruin. Let us see what it would amount to. With about nine million people drawing \$200.00 a month each, it would mean the government must pay out in old age pension funds alone, over twenty billion dollars a year. Add another five billion a year for administration, graft, pork barrel supervision, etc. Then all industry must be controlled to keep out

(Continued on page two)

Springer Is Here!



EVANGELIST HARVEY H. SPRINGER

We are in a great revival at the Fundamental Baptist Tabernacle. Brother Harvey H. Springer and party began last Sunday night a revival to run a month or more, as God leads. I am very happy about the revival and particularly about the workers. Brother Harvey H. Springer and Mrs. Springer and Brother J. H. Jones, the singer.

Brother Springer is a really fine preacher of the gospel. His preaching is striking, bold, Scriptural and fervent. He keeps people awake, he stirs their emotions, he challenges their attention. He is an interesting speaker. Only 28 years old, six feet five inches high, a commanding figure, a strong voice, an open face and holy boldness—these go well with the same gospel that Paul and John the Baptist and Elijah preached. I am for him, he loves the Lord, he believes the Bible, he wins souls. And that isn't all either. He pays his debts, he lives a clean life, he knows how to pray. I expect a great revival.

Brother Springer is a member of the Fundamental Baptist Church of Oklahoma City. He was a Baptist pastor before going

into evangelistic work. Denominational leaders are against him because he will not boost their cooperative program. Modernists are against him naturally, because they are against the gospel which he preaches. But New Testament Christians will enjoy his preaching, will feed on the Word of God, and will pray for His ministry.

Brother J. H. Jones is a really fine song leader. How fine it is to see the great choir space filled with adults and to hear the great singing. Another section below is reserved for the children's choir and they warm your heart with their sweet singing.

Brother Jones enjoys singing. He sings for the Lord. I well remember when I first heard Brother Jones sing years ago in a great revival in the First Baptist Church of Fort Worth when he was with Evangelist Baxter McLendon, "Cyclone Mac." Brother Jones's enthusiasm then, and particularly his leading of the great song, "Sail On, Sail On," blessed my heart. I predict that before the revival is over, you will be hearing the greatest singing most of you ever heard in your life, and that God will greatly bless it to the hearts of all who come.

Do not fail to pray for the revival.

THOSE who have attended any of the services of the revival at the Fundamental Baptist Tabernacle being conducted by H. H. Springer and John H. Jones are convinced that Springer is Here. The Revival started Sunday night.

The tall, rather lean and lanky young evangelist has been bringing messages throughout this week on the prophetic passages of the Bible and their relation to present day events and contemporary signs. Several feature services according to the evangelist are in store for those in attendance.

TONIGHT Springer will speak on the subject, "IS AMERICA SEEING RED?" God looking down from Heaven saw what horrible crimes the Reds would commit. He contemplated their dastardly program of war and carnage. And He prompted His faithful prophet Ezekiel to write; "I am against thee O Gog."

America is at the crossroads today. We are by no means immune to the communistic curse. As a matter of fact, the Red menace was never as active in the U. S. as it is at the present time. No person who is unafraid to face true facts will deny that communistic dictatorial machinery is now set up at the seat of our national government.

The foundations of Christian Democracy are being threatened. The United States is the target of a constant attack of economic warfare, designed for one purpose of carrying us away from the great Christian principles upon which our praying father of the American Republic built our system of Government.

Will Democracy survive? Will America stand? Will Roosevelt be our last President? Hear this remarkable message by all means.

Saturday Night, the evangelist will speak on the subject of Modernism. Remember as he says: "This is the devil's night" by that he means if there ever was a time during the week that all hell breaks loose it is on this night. So he makes this his biggest night. If you are afraid of hearing the truth stay home. DYNAMITE—Don't MISS it.

Sunday will be a great day and the evangelist will bring three great feasts. Sunday Morning, "Doing Your Best for God." 2:45 "The Greatest Whoopie Party ever Held," and 7:30 "Safety First."

Brother Springer puts his life into the work. He trusts his God and uses his Bible. He has no clap trap methods. If you have failed to hear him you have missed a blessing. COME ONCE RETURN OFTEN!

This meeting is for every one and we have only one issue—Jesus Christ, with one subject—SALVATION OF THE LOST PRAY—SING—Bring all your Friends.

RADIO AND PRINTED SERMON HELP MOTHER WIN SON

The Gospel Half Hour on Radio WRR has been used of God in blessing many hearts. A recent letter tells how a boy was saved at the close of my radio message Sunday, January 27th. I publish the letter here, and my reply, for several reasons. First, let every Christian rejoice that the gospel still has power to convict and convert sinners everywhere. Multitudes have been saved through the radio services. Second, let us earnestly and prayerfully seek to follow up

the good impressions left by radio preaching. Talk to your unsaved loved ones. More than once wives have won husbands, and mothers have won their children, as they listened to me preach, or after that. Third, I hope that Christians will keep on their hearts the necessity for keeping the gospel going out over the radio. I have just a few days ago signed a new contract for \$405.00. Every half hour broadcast costs \$15.00 cash. (Continued on page four)

THE SWORD OF THE LORD and of John R. Rice

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Dallas, Texas

THE TOWNSEND

PLAN FOLLY

(Continued from page one)

those over sixty years old. Taxes must be increased enormously. Cost of living would be higher right off the bat. Each article bought in the store would cost more, burdened down with an enormous sales tax. High taxes do not mean prosperity.

The plan is not only silly, but it is wicked. It is wicked because it encourages people to believe that a depression brought on by wickedness can be cured by wickedness. It is wicked because it leaves out of consideration God and morality and integrity and honesty. It is wicked because it teaches people to believe that prosperity will come by hook or crook instead of old fashioned virtue and righteousness and the plan of God. The plan is wicked because it teaches people to look to the government for support instead of to honest hard labor. The plan will have a tendency to break down character, further centralize government, and turn people away from God and His way. Ever since Adam and Eve were put out of the Garden, God has had no plan, and that is that man should eat his bread by the sweat of his face, and this Townsend plan violates the first principle of character and government.

The plan is dangerous, primarily because there are so many people willing to live some other way except by the sweat of their face. People are seeking some way to live without work. Not only are there nine or ten million people over sixty years old in the United States who would be eligible to such a pension, but all their kinfolks think they would get a part of the bounty. The plan appeals to the unemployed by telling them that if older men were out of business they would have plenty of room for employment. It appeals to the restless, the visionary, the uninformed, by telling them that such a plan would end the depression.

Some churches have Townsend Plan Clubs and I was asked for the use of this auditorium for a speaker to present the plan to the public. I refused. God's people should have nothing to do with a plan so silly, so contrary to the principles of good government, so contrary to the Bible and good character.

There is a way out of the depression, but it is the old fashioned way, the way of Godliness. If men will turn back to God, confess and forsake their sins, and begin again to pay their debts, to give honest labor for honest wage, to live in soberness and righteousness, then God will smile again upon America. The depression was brought on by our sins and more sin will not end it, but increase it. What America needs is an old fashioned revival of religion that will change men's hearts and lives.

Baptism Not Essential To Salvation

(Continued from last week)

PART III

TO MAKE BAPTISM ESSENTIAL TO SALVATION
WOULD CONTRADICT THE PLAN OF SALVATION
GIVEN BY OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS, JESUS,
JOHN, PETER, AND PAUL

Above, in Part II, we have given case after case where the Scriptures state that the believer already has everlasting life, is already born of God, and shall not come into condemnation and is justified from all things. Those Scriptures plainly tell what is the state of a believer in Christ. They say that the believer is already saved. Now I want to show that passages which tell how to get saved, give the same plan of salvation as the Scriptures which say that the believer is already saved.

JESUS AND NICODEMUS

In the third chapter of John, we have the case of Nicodemus, a lost Pharisee, who came to Jesus at night. Jesus told this Pharisee that he must be born again. Nicodemus, like so many others who believe in a formal religion, a religion of good works, did not understand what it meant to be born of the Spirit, so Jesus told how to be born of the Spirit, that it was like the motion of the wind which is unseen, but which one can hear and feel. To be born of the Spirit is an unseen matter in the heart. Naturally, Nicodemus needed to know what it takes to be saved, and Jesus told him. In John 3:14-16, He gave these well known and well loved, wonderful words:

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: 15. That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. 16. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."—John 3:14-16.

There are many interesting things about this passage. For one thing, it is made clear that the brass snake on a pole, in Numbers 21:5-9, represents Christ. The Israelites were bitten first by the serpent sin before the physical, fiery serpents came upon them. Those who looked to the brass serpent were healed, and that evidently pictured that as they looked to Christ in their hearts they were saved. The same plan of salvation was good for Old Testament sinners as for Nicodemus in the New Testament.

And then verse 16 gives the best known verse in the Bible.

This verse is important because it is universal. It includes the whole world, "For God so loved the world". This is the plan of salvation offered to the whole world.

It is on the basis of the crucifixion of Christ. The plan of salvation offered here is offered to everybody who will ever be saved by the blood of Christ. If Old Testament saints were saved by the blood of Christ (and they were), they were saved this way. If people after Pentecost in modern days are saved by the blood of Christ, they are saved this way. The Saviour is stating here in universal language the plan of salvation based on the love of God for the whole world and the death of Christ for the sins of the whole world. Naturally, then, the offer is made to "whosoever." This plan of salvation is for whosoever, that is for anybody in the world, in any age, who will come to God on the merits of the shed blood of Jesus Christ.

AND THIS SALVATION, EVERLASTING LIFE, IS PROMISED TO "WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH ON HIM"! This universal plan of salvation is by faith without baptism. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Anyone who trusts in Christ for salvation will not perish but have everlasting life. This Scripture does not say that the believer ought not to be baptized. It does not say that baptism is unimportant, or that it does not matter. Baptism is important. Baptism does matter. All believers ought to be baptized. But baptism is not a part of the universal plan of salvation taught here! A simple faith or dependance in the heart is not the same as baptism and does not include baptism, so baptism is not essential to salvation.

Above we have seen Jesus talking to a lost sinner, telling him the plan of salvation, and in that discussion He does not even mention baptism. Then it is wickedness and folly and a perversion of the Scriptures to put in baptism where Jesus did not put it.

BELIEVING IN CHRIST INCLUDES EVERYTHING
ESSENTIAL TO SALVATION

It is manifestly true from the Scriptures already used that believing in Christ includes everything that is essen-

tial to salvation. The Scriptures show that every condition mentioned in the Bible as essential to salvation is included in believing. For instance, John 1:12 says "As many as RECEIVED him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that BELIEVE on his name." Believing and receiving are the same. To receive Christ is to believe on Christ and one who believes on Christ receives Him. They are the same.

Again, John 6:37 says that "him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." Coming to Christ here is indicated as the way to salvation. So it is, for Hebrews 11:6 says: "He that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." One comes to Christ or to God only by faith. There is no other way to come to God. One who believes comes to Christ.

Likewise repentance and faith are inseparably connected as the same act. The Scripture says: "Repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ" (Acts 20:21). To repent is to change one's mind, that is, to turn from sin to God. Repentance in some sense represents the necessary attitude of a sinner toward God, if he would be saved. He must turn from sin to God. That is repentance. But the way a sinner turns to God is by "faith in our Lord Jesus Christ." Jesus said, "No man cometh unto the Father but by me" (John 14:6). You may be sure that any one who has turned from sin to God, that is, repented, at the same time, and in the same act, came by faith in Jesus Christ. Turning to God, trusting Christ—they are the same. One who repents believes, and one who believes repents. They are the same. Both refer to a single act of penitent faith. They are never mentioned in the Bible as separate acts coming at separate times.

Notice carefully that baptism is not the same as faith, and no Scripture passage mentions baptism as a part of faith or as the same as faith. The contrary is true.

For instance when the eunuch believed in Christ and wanted to be baptized, Philip told him, "If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest." (Acts 8:37). He was not to be baptized until he already believed. Believing in Christ in the heart is one thing, but being baptized as a physical ceremony is another thing. And baptism should not have come until after faith. They do not come together but one follows the other. They ought not to be separated long, but they always are separated, in the Bible. In the case of Paul, certainly, faith came on the road to Damascus, and baptism came three days later. Faith, then, includes receiving Christ, coming to Christ, and repentance toward God. Those are various ways of saying the same thing. But faith does not include baptism. Faith is not baptism, baptism is not faith. One could believe in Christ without being baptized, or be baptized (improperly, of course) without believing in Christ.

Honest people, then, must take Jesus at face value when He said that "Whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." That means believing without baptism, as far as the plan of salvation is concerned. And immediately after Jesus gave this universal plan of salvation, He said, "He that believeth on him is not condemned" (John 3:18).

PETER AND CORNELIUS

Jesus gave the plan of salvation to Nicodemus in the 3rd chapter of John and told him that to be born again Nicodemus must believe in Him and would have everlasting life. Peter gave the same plan of salvation to Cornelius. The 10th chapter of Acts gives the account. Cornelius, a centurion of a band of Roman soldiers who were Italians, that is, from Italy, had been earnestly seeking God. So an angel appeared to him and told him to send for Simon Peter at Joppa. This preacher would tell him "words whereby he might be saved" (Acts 11:14). So the anxious sinner sent two servants and a soldier to Joppa after Peter. The Lord prepared Peter's heart, convinced him that he should go preach the gospel to these Gentiles and Peter returned with the messengers of Cornelius and preached the gospel to a group assembled in Cornelius's home. After telling about Jesus and His life and death then Peter said in Acts 10:43:

"To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins."

Here Peter was preaching the gospel to a group of sinners. They would need preaching as plain as heathen people in China need it today. Mark you, they were not Jews but Gentiles. They had never heard the gospel. They were a good ways removed from Jerusalem. They were so ignorant of true Christianity that when Peter came in Cornelius fell down to worship him! If ever a group of people needed to have plain, understandable preaching on

(Continued on page three)

BAPTISM NOT ESSENTIAL TO SALVATION

the plan of salvation, it was this group. So Peter told them what to do to be saved, AND IN THE PLAN OF SALVATION HE GAVE THEM, BAPTISM IS NOT EVEN MENTIONED! No, Peter told them that "whosoever BELIEVETH in him shall receive remission of sins."

Peter could not honestly have implied baptism when he said "believe" because these heathen Gentiles did not know about baptism. Later these were baptized but only after Peter expressly commanded it, and after they were already saved. Peter preached here to Cornelius and his household the same plan of salvation that Jesus gave to Nicodemus.

And the plan of salvation Peter gave them was the right plan too, for God blessed it and they were saved on the basis of that promise, that whosoever should believe in Christ should have remission of sins. The following verses tell us that while Peter was still saying these words that the Holy Spirit came on Cornelius and his household, and was poured out on them just like on the apostles and others at Pentecost. Acts 10:43-48 tells us as follows:

"To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins. 44. While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. 45. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. 46. For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then answered Peter, 47. Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? 48. And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days."

Cornelius and his household were not only filled with the Holy Ghost but were saved. The power of the Holy Spirit upon them proved that and Peter said to the other Jews with him that these "have received the Holy Ghost as well as we." What they had was just as good as what Peter the apostle had, so certainly they were saved. And mark you, that came before they were baptized. Peter told them that whosoever should believe on Christ should have

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BAPTISM NOT ESSENTIAL TO SALVATION
 (Continued from page three)

remission of sins, so while he yet said these words they did believe on Christ and were instantly saved so that no one could doubt it.

When Peter went back to Jerusalem he explained the details of this marvelous happening to the assembled apostles and brethren. In Acts 11:17, 18 we have the words of Peter proving to the others there that these Gentiles had certainly been saved because God had given them the gift of the Holy Ghost.

"Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, what was I, that I could withstand God? 18. When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life"—Acts 11:17, 18.

The Christian Jews who heard Peter's account were convinced and admitted that the gift of the Holy Ghost was proof that they were saved; that God had granted salvation to the Gentiles on the same basis as to Jews. Cornelius and his household were saved before they were baptized. Then they were baptized pointing toward the remission of sins which Peter told them they would receive when they believed.

ALL THE PROPHETS TEACH THE SAME PLAN OF SALVATION BY BELIEVING

But we have not yet said enough about Acts 10:43: "To him give all the prophes witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins." All the prophets of God taught the same plan of salvation, taught that sins would be remitted and forgiven to those who simply believe in Christ! That is what Peter said. And examination of the writings of the prophets will prove that he said the truth. Isaiah taught the same plan of salvation, so did all the other prophets. This proves that the same plan of salvation is good for all ages. Circumcision did not save in the Old Testament nor help save. Hebrews the 11th chapter tells how all the saints of those days were saved by faith, from righteous Abel on down to New Testament times. Every book in the Bible that has any reference to salvation teaches this same plan, according to the plain statement of the apostle Peter.

(Continued next issue)

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WHAT RACE HORSE

GAMBLING DOES

(Continued from page one)
 may say he died by his own hand, but actually all of us know somebody else put up the poison, led his fevered brain to buy it, guided his palsied hand as he put the tablets in his mouth. Who killed K. W. Alford? I answer back that one may say illegal bookies took his money and ruined his life and led to his suicide. But bookmaking did not flourish until gambling was legalized. Illegal bookmaking is the constant companion of legalized Pari-mutuel race track gambling. They feed each the other and are inseparable. So legalized race track gambling killed K. W. Alford.

The Waggoners, the Georges, and other race track promoters killed K. W. Alford.

But wait, in building and promoting race tracks, they were following the law, so we must go further still. Members of the State Legislature killed K. W. Alford.

But we must go back another step, the people elected the State Legislature. Those who cared did not say so, and many did not care whether we had legalized gambling or not. So the people of Texas murdered K. W. Alford. Profligate, Godless, gambling-mad people murdered K. W. Alford, left his wife a widow and his five daughters orphans.

And the curse of Almighty God will fall upon this evil and those who propagate it.

K. W. Alford well wrote, on the bottom of the poison box just before he died, "The wages of sin is death." God Almighty will hold Texas accountable for thousands of race track gambling tragedies.

RADIO AND PRINTED SERMON HELP MOTHER WIN SON

(Continued from page one)
 I have no way to pay it except as God's people send it in. Read about the happy conversion of this little boy and then send an offering to keep the radio gospel going out to the multitudes.

Route 5
 Greenville, Texas
 January 30, 1935

"Rev. John R. Rice
 201 East Tenth Street,
 Dallas, Texas.

"Dear Brother Rice:

"We heard you on the radio Sunday 6:15 P. M., WRR. As soon as you went off the air, my little boy, age nine and one half years, came to me and said, 'Mother, I want to be saved, what must I do?' I had read your book on What Must I Do To Be Saved, and had been teaching him how to be saved, so I told him again. So he got on his knees and prayed the prayer of the publican, and added, 'Jesus, save me.'

"I just thought he didn't understand what he was doing, but when he got up crying aloud, I changed my mind. I believed he was saved.

"Do you think a child that age understands? I always thought they were just scared and didn't know what they were doing, but I know my boy wasn't scared.

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want your new book on "The Coming Kingdom of Christ." I am sending fifty cents for it, and am sending \$1.25 for you and a few cents to cover postage.

"May God's blessings be yours,
 (Signed) Mrs. A. P. Hayter."

February 4, 1935

"Mrs. A. P. Hayter
 Greenville, Texas

"Dear Mrs. Hayter:

"I was very happy to hear about the conversion of your little boy. Do not doubt his conversion. Evidently he was convicted by the Holy Spirit and sincerely trusted in Christ for salvation. I was saved when about nine years old, though my father did not believe I was old enough. You have every reason to believe that your boy has found the Savior, and you ought to encourage him to claim it openly and to follow Christ.

"I am glad to believe that the radio services are doing good.

"Thank you for the offering which you sent and for your order of the debate book and The Coming Kingdom of Christ, will be ready, I hope within a short while.

"Your brother in Christ,
 (Signed) John R. Rice."

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